

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

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FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3941

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

USMISSION NATO

AMCONSUL THESSALONIKI

UNCLAS ATHENS 4085

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PINS, NATO, GR

SUBJECT: ANDROUTSOPOULOS/ECEVIT MEETING

REF: ATHENS AIRGRAM A-183 DATED JUNE 26, 1974

1. ACCORDING TO SEMI-OFFICIAL ATHENS NEWS AGENCY (ANA) BULLETIN GREEK AND TURKISH PREMIERS WITH RESPECTIVE DELEGATIONS MET FOR SEVERAL HOURS AFTERNOON JUNE 26 AT SYG LUNS CONFERENCE ROOM. AFTER MEETING ANDROUTSOPOULOS REPORTEDLY MADE STATEMENT: "AT TODAY'S MEETING WITH THE PRIME MINISTER OF TURKEY, A BROAD REVIEW OF BILATERAL RELATIONS WAS MADE. THE NEED WAS REITERATED TO MAINTAIN AND CULTIVATE GOOD RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES AND SETTLE PROBLEMS PEACEFULLY. THE PRIME MINISTER OF TURKEY PROPOSED A SPECIAL PROCEDURE FOR THIS PURPOSE, AND CONCURRENT (SIC) CLEARING UP OF DIFFERENCES.

"FOR MY PART, I STRESSED THAT THE GREEK GOVERNMENT INSISTS ON THE NEED FOR COOPERATION WITH NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES WITH WHICH IT SHARES MANY COMMON INTERESTS. IT CONSIDERS THAT, AS UNCLASSIFIED

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BILATERALLY AGREED IN THE PAST, THE DIPLOMATIC WAY ASSISTED

BY POLITICAL DESIRE OFFERS POSSIBILITIES FOR SETTling
DIFFERENCES BETWEEN STATES."

2. AS REPORTED BY ANA PM ECEVIT TOLD JOURNALISTS THAT TURKISH
SIDE HAD MADE SPECIFIC PROPOSALS ON PROBLEMS BETWEEN TURKEY
AND GREECE AND MAINLY ON PRINCIPLES AND MACHINERY GOVERNING
NEGOTIATIONS, WHICH WERE NOT ACCEPTED BY GREEK SIDE. IN
REPLY TO QUESTION ON NATURE OF GREEK SIDE'S OBJECTIONS,
MR. ECEVIT IS QUOTED AS SAYING: "THE GREEK SIDE CONSIDERS
THAT THE EXISTING DIPLOMATIC WAY IS ADEQUATE. WERE IT SO,
NO PROBLEMS WOULD HAVE EXISTED." PREMIER ECEVIT ADDED THAT HE
WOULD REVEAL PROPOSALS MADE TO GREEK DELEGATION AT BRUSSELS
AIRPORT BEFORE DEPARTING FOR ANKARA.

3. ATHENS NEWSPAPERS REPORT PREMIERS' REMARKS FOLLOWING
MEETING SIMILARLY TO ANA COVERAGE WITH ADDITION THAT
ECEVIT REPORTEDLY REPLIED TO QUERY ON WHETHER DECLARATION
OF GOODWILL WOULD BE ISSUED BY COMMENTING "FOR OUR SIDE
WE DO NOT WISH TO PROCEED TO DECLARATION OF GOODWILL UNLESS
WE OBTAIN CONCRETE RESULTS WITH REGARD TO THE MECHANISM."
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